

Lesson 99

1 **TOPIC QUESTION**
今日のトピック

Do all businesses practice equal opportunities?

すべての仕事で均等な機会は与えられているか？

2 **ARTICLE**
記事

Directions: Read the following article aloud.

課題：以下の記事をはっきりとした声で音読しましょう。

Equal Opportunities

Equal opportunity is a stipulation that all people should be treated similarly, unhampered by artificial barriers or prejudices or preferences, except when particular “distinctions can be explicitly justified.” The aim according to this often “complex and contested concept” is that important jobs should go to those “most qualified” persons most likely to perform ably in a given task and not go to persons for arbitrary or irrelevant reasons, such as circumstances of birth, upbringing, friendship ties to whoever is in power, religion, sex, ethnicity, race, caste, or “involuntary personal attributes” such as disability, age, or sexual preferences. Chances for advancement should be open to everybody interested such that they have “an equal chance to compete within the framework of goals and the structure of rules established.”

The idea is to remove arbitrariness from the selection process and base it on some “pre-agreed basis of fairness, with the assessment process being related to the type of position,” and emphasizing procedural and legal means. Individuals should succeed or fail based on their own efforts and not “extraneous circumstances” such as having well-connected parents. It is opposed to nepotism and plays a role in whether a social structure is seen as legitimate.

Lesson 99

3 VOCABULARY

語い

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud by yourself.

課題: 先生の後に続いてくり返した後、今度はひとりで発音してみましょう。

distinction 区別

prejudice 偏見

extraneous 無関係な

emphasize 強調する

nepotism 縁故主義

4 Questions

質問

Directions: Read the questions aloud and answer them.

課題: 質問を声に出して読んだ後、答えてみましょう。

1. **Can a person's ethnicity affect certain opportunities?**
2. **Do people with disabilities get equal opportunities?**
3. **Do all businesses practice equal opportunities?
Explain your answer.**
4. **Have you or someone you know ever been a victim of
discrimination at work?**